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Message Text

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FOR: IOP/M; IPS, IBS, IAA

E.O. 1165-: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT (JUNE 26-JULY 2)

1) EXTERNAL COVERAGE NIGERIAN PRESS EMPHASISED MOZAMBIQUE (WITH FORD LETTER REWRITE FRONT PAGE OBSERVER JULY 2), AMIN AND OAU VENUE, SOUTHERN AFRICA ISSUES, INDIA AND MIDDLE EAST. DIALECTIC ARTICLES ON CHINA AND PORTUGAL APPEARED WHILE ROCKEFELLER REPORT FADED.

2) THE TRIAL AND STATE OF EMERGENCY INDIA'S PRIME MINISTER WAS FOLLOWED BY BOTH SERVICE COPY AND EDITORIALS. IBADAN'S NIGERIAN TRIBUNE (JUNE 27) SYMPATHIEED WITH HER PLIGHT IN FRONT PAGE EDIT. NOTED STRINGENT ELECTORAL LAWS AND SAID IF INDIA LOST GANDHI IT WOULD LOSE BEST PM SINCE PANDIT NEHRU: "IT IS A SADDENING THOUGHT, PARTICU-LARLY AS OFFICES ALLEGED ARE MINOR AND TECHNICAL. THEY ARE A LONG WAY FROM WATERGATE, AND VERY VERY FAR FROM THE CORRUPTION PERETRATED IN MANY OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE THIRD ORLD AND EVEN IN THE ESTABLISHED DEMOCRACIES."

3) NEW NIGERIAN, FRONT PAGE JUNE 27, EDIT COMMENTED ON WIDESPREAD ARRESTS: "MRS. GANDHI HAS REACTED SHARPLY AND SWIFTLY TO THE GROWING POLITICAL PRESSURE TO OUTST HER. SHE HAS, ALAS, RESORTED TO THE TIME-HONORED RESPONCE OF DECLALRING A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND ARRESTING OPP OSI-
TION LEADERS. THE AFRICAN DISEASE IN CATCHING ON*"

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RL DAILY TIMES OPINION COLUMN, PAGE 3 JUNE 28, SAID"THE GOVERNMENT

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OF INDIRA GANDHI CAN ONLY WORSEN AN ALREADY BAD SITUATION BY THE HARS
H
AND REPRESSIVE MEASURE IT HAS NOW ADOPTED...THE PRESENT REPRESSION
BY
THE RULING PARTY NEGATES BASIC DEMOCRACTIC INSTITUTIONS AND VALUES.
IT
IS ALSO AND UNFAIR USE OF GOVERNMENTAL POWERS AGAINST THE LEGITIMATE
ASPIRATIONS OF THE OPPOSITION FOR A FAIR ELECTION AND PROBITY AND
INTEGRITY IN PUBLIC LIFE."

5) TIME INTERNATIONAL JUNE 30 FRONT PAGE HEAD "DARKNESS OVER INDIA"
LED TO FULL PAGE 3 SPEICIAL REPORT LISTING "TACTICAL SUCCESSES AND
STRATEGIC FAILURES;" CONCLUDED "ALL THOSE WHO UNTIL THIS MOMENT USED
TO
IDOLIZE INDIA AS THE LARGEST DEMOCRACY IN THE WORLD NOW STAND SPELL-
BOUND
AND FLABBERGASTED."

6) BOTH TIMES INTERNATIONAL JUNE 30, AND RENAISSANCE JUNE 29, FOUND
IRONIES IN ZAIRE. "WHEN FRIENDSHIP TURNS SOUR" WAS THE PAGE 4 HEAD IN
TIMES INTERNATIONAL, WHICH REVIEWED EVENTS SINCE JUNE 17, INCLUDING
US DENIAL, SELECT COMMITTEE QUIZ, AND KINSHASA DETERMINATION TO
"KEEP AMERICANS AT ARMS LENGTH." RENAISSANCE RADICAL RAMBLES
SIX-COLUMN DELINEATION OF POLITICAL IRONIES SINCEMCROMWELL (PAGE 3)
WOVE IN TULLY BOOK CLAIMS OF CIA SUPPORT FOR MOBUTU, UK/ISRAELI
SUPPORT FOR AMIN, SOVIET EARLY SUPPORT OF PRC.

7) DAILY SKETCH AND OBSERVER BOTH HAD PAGE 3 EDITS JUNE 27 EDITION,
TRIBUNE FRONT PAGE JUNE 28 CALLING FOR GENERAL AMIN TO PARDON DENNIS
HILLS. LATTER ASKED MEMBERS OF OAU TO INTERVENE..."TO PERSUADE
GENERAL IDI AMIN TO STOP DISGRACING THE AFRICAN CONTINENT..MANY
AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE HAVE HAD TO JUDGE CLEMENCY: BUT, SAID EDIT
"NONE HAS BEHAVED WITH SUCH RECKLESS DISREGARD FOR CIVILIZATION OR
HUMAN FEELING AS THE GENERAL HAS DONE IN THIS CASE."

8) TIME INTL COLUMN LENGTH PAGE 5 STORY ON US WAS HEADLINED "THE
FEATHER IN FORD'S CAP" AND SALUTED THE PRESIDENT'S FOREING POLICY
ACHIEVEMENTS; SAID BACKGROUND WAS HIS "INEXPERIENCE" IN FOREIGN
POLICY
AS VP, HIS "SALVAGE" OF AMERICAN POLICY IN SEASIA AS PRESIDENT. THEN
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THE TRIP TO EUROPE..."AGAINST ALL EXPECTATIONS PRESIDENT FORD
ACHIEVED
SUCH A REMARKABLE SUCCESS ALL AROUND THAT EVEN CRITICS IN BOTH CONGRESS

AND THE PRESS LAVISHED PRAISES ON HIM... THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT FOLLO
WING
THIS TREMENDOUS SUCCESS OF HIS HECTIC EUROPEAN TRIP, PRESIDENT FORD W
ILL

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IN FUTURE FOCUS MORE ATTENTION ON THE MIDDLE EAST, AND IF HIS EFFORTS ARE FRUITFUL, THIS SHOULD ENHANCE HIS CHANCES IN NEXT YEAR'S PRESIDEN TIAL
ELECTIONS."

9) THE EXPRESS OF JUNE 28 FOUND NATO INTERFERENCE AND CONFUSION IN PORTUGAL. "WHAT GREATLY DISTURBS THE NATO (COUNTRIES) ARE THE SPEED WITH WHICH THE NEW REGIME IN LISBON IS EXECUTING ITS PROGRAM OF DECOLONIZATION: ITS OPEN CONDEMNATION OF APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA AND ITS TOUGH STAND AGAINST THE WHITE MINORITY GOVERNMENT IN ZIMBABWE," SAID PAGE 4 ARTICLE. WRITER NSIMAH OHIOH WROTE NATO, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF PORTUGAL'S TOTTERING ECONOMY, "HAS BEEN SWINGING A BASKETFUL OF PROMISES OF ECONOMIC AID BEFORE THE COUNTRY'S RULER;" ADDED FAILURE OF COUNTRY'S LEADERS TO FIND SOLUTION TO DISPUTE BETWEE N
SOCIALISTS AND COMMUNISTS STEMS FROM INDECISION TO GOVE PORTUGAL AN IDENTIFY: CONCLUDED THE MILITARY "MUST DECIDE NOW WHETHER TO TAKE ORDERS FROM NATO AND GO THE GAETANO WAY OR TO BREAK WITH IMPERIALISTS AND LEAD THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE TRIUMPHANTLY ALONG THE TRUE SOCIALISTS PATH OF DEVELOPMENT."

10) N.B. THE NIGERIAN STANDARD OF JOS, BENUE PLATEAU, FOR THREE YEARS A WEEKLY, BECOME A DAILY TABLOID PUBLICATION STARTING JULY 1. HEDGES

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